

Assemblyman
PAUL KORETZ

Forty-second Assembly District

proudly representing the communities of West Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, Century City, Westwood, Bel Air, Brentwood, West Los Angeles, Hollywood, Hancock Park, Universal City, Studio City, and Sherman Oaks



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**KORETZ BILL TO ALLOW COPS TO ENGAGE IN OFF-DUTY
EMPLOYMENT BECOMES LAW**

Legislation closes loophole in current law

Sacramento – Yesterday, Governor Gray Davis signed legislation by Assemblyman Paul Koretz (D-West Hollywood) which closes a loophole in current law so that off-duty police officers can seek employment during their off-duty time.

AB 359 ensures that a police officer can engage in off-duty employment except in situations where written departmental regulations or policies specify otherwise, or subject to the terms and conditions laid out in an agreement between the employer department and the employee's union. If a department denies an officer's request to engage in off-duty employment, the department must provide the reasons for withholding consent to the officer contemporaneously with the denial.

"Generally, police departments permit officers to work off duty. Unfortunately, not every officer seeking permission to do so is treated fairly," Koretz said. "It is not unheard of for a department to deny an officer's request to 'moonlight' to harass or punish the officer, even though working off-duty may be the only way for the officer to support his family in these trying economic times. This arbitrary treatment is unwarranted and harms morale. AB 359 makes the law in this area more clear for both the officers and their management," concluded Koretz.

AB 359 had no opposition and was sponsored by the Los Angeles Police Protective League, the Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs, and the Riverside Sheriff's Association. This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2004.

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